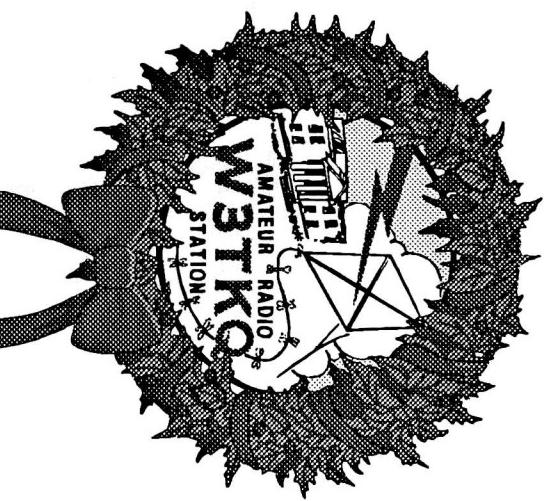


FIRST CLASS MAIL



The Blurb

A Publication of

THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.

P.O. BOX 88, ABINGTON, PA 19001

The Blurb

December 1994

ON THE ROAD TO



VOLUME 44

is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.**, whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. *Blurb* subscriptions are available to nonmembers for \$10 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets sometime after 7:30 p.m. on the first non-holiday WEDNESDAY of every month at **The Franklin Institute Science Museum**, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Enter from Winter Street, or the parking garage on 21st street.

ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!

Amateur Radio License Examinations - the first non-holiday Thursday of every month
at The Franklin Institute Science Museum—doors close at 6:30 p.m.—SHARP!

CLUB INFORMATION

24-Hour Information Number at W3TKQ: **(215) 448-1139**

Repeater frequencies: 147.03 MHz (Roxboro input requires no PL, but outputs 91.5 Hz.)
PL required for off-site receiver (OSR) access:

Bucks County 131.8 Hz—Center City 103.5 Hz—Lansdale 114.8 Hz

444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)

Simplex frequency: 147.51 MHz

Packet BBS frequency at W3TKQ: 144.99 MHz
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

STATIONS

W3QV - 147.03 MHz. Repeater - 8200 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB

W3TKQ - The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3PWG

AMATEURS (with license) ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO OPERATE W3TKQ.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: KB3IV, Ed Masarsky, 15 Poe Avenue, Wyncote, PA 19095 (215) 572-5238

1st VICE PRESIDENT: WU3I, Steve Hoch, 4638 Oakland Street, Philadelphia, PA 19124 (215) 535-8061

2nd VICE PRESIDENT: W3STW, Al Tribble, 2848 Carter Road, Trevose, PA 19053 (215) 639-6771

SECRETARY: KE3CZ, Bob Wilcox, P.O. Box 21914, Philadelphia, PA 19124 (215) 535-7355

TREASURER: N3KGG, Dave Witkowski, 730 Greymont Street, Philadelphia, PA 19116 (215) 969-5485

DIRECTORS

W3BBB (94); N3FVI (94); AA3EP (95); W3IRS (95); W3IIM (A); K3KUD (A); W3RM (A)

COMMITTEES

Archives: W3IIN

Blurb Folding: WB3KOH&J

Budget /Audit: K3KUD

Directory: WB3KOJ

Education: AA3CH

Emerg. Coord.: W3BBB

Field Day N3IEI

Membership: AA3BB

Net Control: KB3IV

Program: WU3I

Publicity: N3IEI

Refreshments: N3FVI

Repeater: W3BBB

Special Events: AA3EP

VE Program: ND3Q

TVI: W3VV

W3TKQ: KB3IV

Welcome: NEEDED

Blurb STAFF

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Labels: WB3KOJ

Publisher/Typist: W3IIN

Artist: N3QIE

DEADLINE: To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy MUST be in the hands of the Editor at the Board of Directors' Meeting!

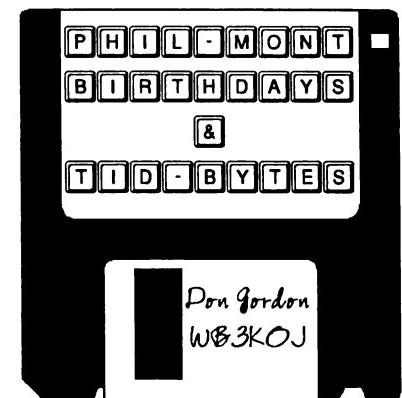
NET SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	09:30	147.030 MHz FM	"SUNDAY MORNING 2 METER NET"
	10:00	28.993 MHz SSB	"10-ON-10 NET"
	10:20	3.993 MHz SSB	75 METER NET
TUESDAY	20:00	147.030 MHz FM	CW PRACTICE NET
LAST WED	20:00	147.030 MHz FM	W3TKQ OPERATORS' NET

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 02 Don Gordon - WB3KOJ
- Patricia Katz (XYL N3OWM)
- 06 Susie Lada - N3FTY
- 08 Angelo Drammissi - K3YUN
- Al Rowland - W3JIL
- 09 Jim Bock - K3PHC
- Dorothy Hart (XYL N3OBT)
- 10 Elsie Bardsley (XYL K3OJA)
- 13 Bill Bianco - KA3ZHB*
- 15 Byron Peebles - NZ3O
- Debi Wilcox (XYL KE3CZ)
- 19 Larry Stevenson - KD3QE
- 20 Frank Lewis - N3DGU
- 21 Rick Spencer - N3DHI
- 23 Geoff Mendelson - N3OWJ
- 25 Jim McCloskey - N3PMA
- 27 Jim Spencer - W3BBB
- 28 Betty King (XYL W3PXY)
- 29 Adam O'Donnell - N3RCS*
- Sal Valente - NS3Y
- 30 George Sellers - KB3AHQ

*Indicates New Member 93-94

**MEMBERSHIP STATS**

178	Regular
20	Family
3	Honorary
7	Pending
208	

HELP PHIL-MONT

Are you planning to join ARRL or renew your current membership? Help P.M.R.C. by joining or renewing through the club, contact the Treasurer, Dave Witkowski, N3KGG for details.

DUES & DIRECTORY UPDATE

December's here again, so it's DUES & DIRECTORY UPDATE time. With this issue you received your 1995 Dues Invoice/Directory Information Sheet. Please carefully check your personal information (NEW DATA BASE THIS YEAR) and return to N3KGG with your Dues and Franklin Institute Optional Donation. Your early response will be greatly appreciated.

GOODIES

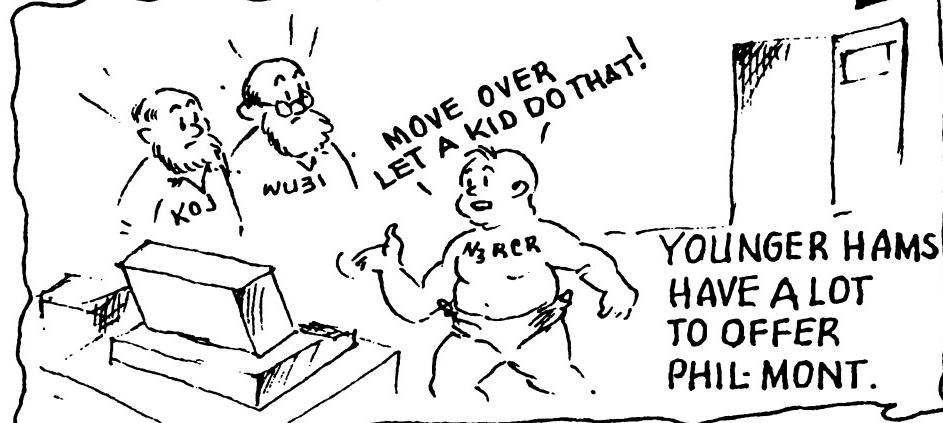
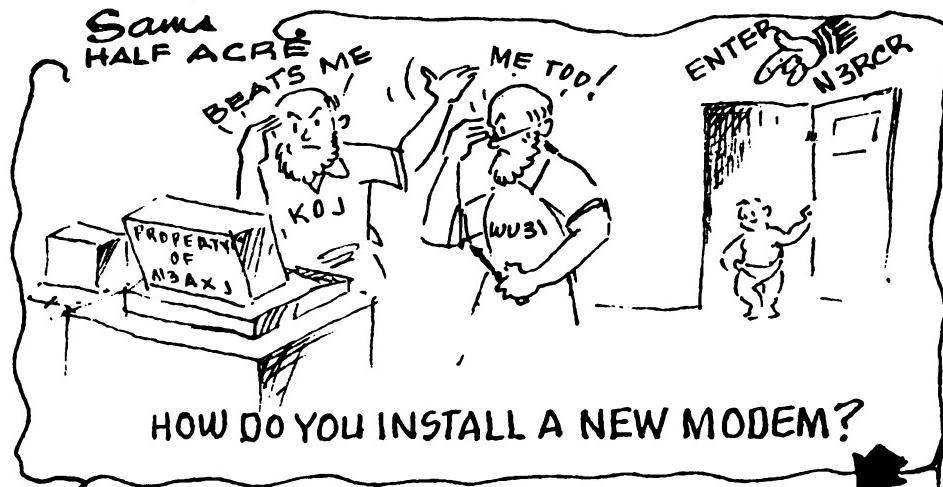
Heath SB-220
Heath HW-101
Kenwood TR-2200
Drake SPR-4
Regency HX-1000
Lambda LMCC-5
IBM PC-XT
Contact Jim Spencer, W3BBB, (215) 362-5172.

2 Kw linear amp 80 through 10, w/manual
SSB transceiver, homebuilt ps, w/manual
2 Mtr FM tx/rx, 2 watts, AC ps, DC cord
for parts only
HH programmable scanner
5 v @ 10A regulated ps
2-5/8" FD, 640K, color monitor, printer

LOOKING FOR OLD QST ISSUES
NEED 10/76 7/79 10/82

If you have any of the copies listed please contact Fred Lamberti, KE3NP at 338-2806. They will be returned in the treasured condition in which they were received.

STILL WANTED!
2-meter all-mode mobile transceiver
Chris Brady, N3IEI (610) 270-0831

**The PREZ sez**
Ed Masarsky, KB3IV

December brings many things to Phil-Monters: holiday shopping,

colder weather, new-year's resolutions, elections, dues notices, good-byes and hellos. Hopefully, any holiday gifts include some new piece of ham gear. As for the weather we can only hope that last year was a fluke, and we will not lose any more antennas to ice storms. New year's resolutions are rarely kept, but you still have to try anyway.

Why not resolve to participate in a special event, help at a VE session, Elmer a new ham, visit W3TKQ, or attend a Phil-Mont meeting.

Elections will take place at Phil-Mont's Annual Meeting on December 7. Please join your fellow members, and support the candidates for office. For those members who can't attend, there is an absentee

ballot in this month's *Blurb*. Your 1995 dues notice is included with this issue. Please take the time to check that we have all of your vital statistics correct for our next directory printing. Help our treasurer by mailing your check early; his computer is all warmed-up and waiting.

Good-bye to my fellow officers, directors and committee chair-people. The past two years serving as president have been made easier for me because of the support and effort given by all of you. Thank you for your continued help to me and to Phil-Mont.

Hello to the incoming leaders of the club for 1995. I urge all members to help them keep our club at the top level of our hobby, where we have been for 45 years.

73, and happy holidays to all. ☺

444 issues... and still going!

With this issue, our intrepid artist, Sam Kuncevich, N3QIE, celebrates the end of 37 years of continuous service to the club through his always enjoyable, and often thought provoking, covers and 'corners'. As a bonus, included in this issue are some additional items from Sam, along with an update on the status of the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard.

As editor, I'm extremely grateful to have on our staff such a dependable, and creative person; it makes my job so much easier, not having to worry whether we'll have something interesting to share with our readers, and certainly not having the slightest concern about meeting each deadline!

I know that, at times, it's not easy for Sam to find the time to devote to the *Blurb*, but he always manages to come through, and for that, we all should be thankful!

Thanks, Sam. All of our past editors, and I, appreciate your ongoing dedication!
W3IIM

UPCOMING

- Dec 1 License Examinations at The Franklin Institute
- Dec 7 General Meeting Elections
- Dec 14 Directors' Meeting at N3FVI's
~~~
- Jan 4 General Meeting
- Jan 5 License Examinations at The Franklin Institute
- Jan 18 Directors' Meeting at N3GLU & KB3IV's  
~~~
- Feb 1 General Meeting
- Feb 2 License Examinations at The Franklin Institute
- Feb 15 Directors' Meeting

HAMFESTS

Look for 'Goodies' every month in the *Blurb*.

CLUB INFORMATION
24 Hour Information Number at W3TKQ
(215) 448-1139

V.E. TEST LOCATIONS

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring the original, and one photocopy of their license. All applicants, including children, must present positive ID. Also bring the original, and a copy, of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 1994 test fee is \$5.75; there is no charge for a Novice test.

- The FRANKLIN INSTITUTE
Monthly, 1st Thursday—Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q
(215) 879-0505 day, (215) 482-0386 home
- BELLMAWR, NJ
Monthly, 3rd Thursday—Bill Helmatag
(609) 546-7710
- BRYN MAWR
Irregularly—Bob Lees
(215) 265-6032
- LEVITTOWN
Monthly, 1st Saturday—George Le Noir, WR3B
(215) 943-4886
- LINWOOD, PA—(Commercial & Amateur Exams.)
Quarterly—Barb Levine, AA3DV
(215) 859-9210, (302) 792-7760 home
- MORRISVILLE
Monthly, 3rd Thursday—Dave Munson, NM3K
(215) 788-7515
- POTTSTOWN
Monthly, 1st Monday—Warren Erdman K3ZXQ
(215) 679-5764
- TELFORD
Monthly, 3rd Monday—Warren Erdman K3ZXQ
(215) 679-5764
- UNIVERSITY OF PA
Monthly, Last Saturday—Jeff DePolo
(215) 898-8538 shack, (215) 337-7383 home
- WARMINSTER
Monthly, Last Wed.—Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ
(215) 343-3494

Call
1-800-32-NEW-HAM

for free information for prospective hams

A ham's Christmas

KØOJ.

Kenwood roasting on an open fire, Yaesu nipping at your nose, yuletide Icoms tuning a wire, and folks dressed up with Alinco;

Everybody knows a Heathkit, and some mistletoe help to make the season bright, Collins rigs with their tubes all aglow will find it nice to talk to Knight.

They say that Santa's on his way, he's loaded lots of rigs and feedline on his sleigh, and every mother's child is gonna spy, to see if old Swans really know how to fry;

And so I'm offering this simple phrase, to hams from one to ninety two, although it's been said many times, many ways, Merry Christmas to you. ☺
via WB3KOJ

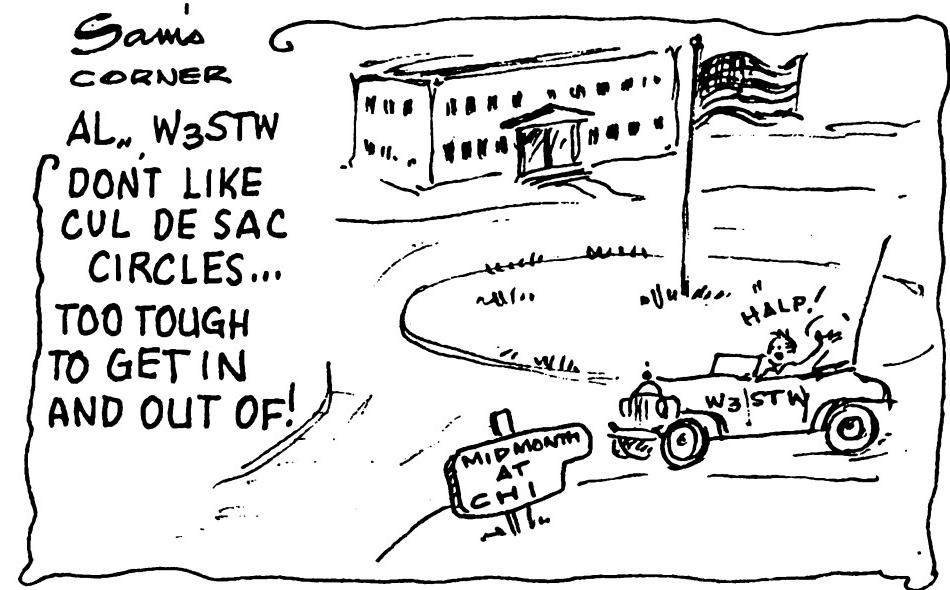
Truck Stops to get Radio Shack Mini-Stores

Radio Shack and National Auto Truck-stops, Inc., have joined forces to sell various Radio Shack products in about 100 truck stops across the country. RS will not have true stores in the stops, but will sell the products wholesale to National which will set the selling price. These mini-stores will be known as Radio Shack Travel Centers.

According to Tandy, about 250 of the company's products, including CB radios and antennas, shortwave radios, scanners, portable TVs and tape recorders will be sold.

An immediate fear of some amateurs is that Radio Shack will sell hundreds of HTX-202 radios to unlicensed individuals, possibly flooding the two-meter band with pirate operators. Some parts of the country are already having problems with large numbers of truckers bootlegging in the two meter band. ☺

Ground Wave via Fort Myers ARC's Modulator



know what his characters are up to, or surely he would put a stop to it. Like all the times when they are funny the way they used to be when Maggie threw rolling pins at Jiggs. This is a basic credo of the American way.

Then too, he comes dangerously close to laughing at errors, falls or other mistakes. This is bad. Errors, falls and mistakes have to be taken seriously in this world. It would never do for civilization to lose confidence in its principle products. After all, this is what has done more to put it where it is today than the humorists. Let's not forget that.

However, with all its shortcomings, it is probable that the *Blurb* is the most authoritative work we have had in this field so far. It contains, besides nostalgia, stirring material which will be unfamiliar to the reader who only reads radio catalogs, which is good enough to constitute a clear cut violation of union rules.

The cartoons are not as fraught with significance as they used to be before the beat cartoonists came along in other publications, and started drawing stuff that is even fraughter.

However the *Blurb* will remain as the authoritative work until someone comes along that knows more about the *Blurb* than its author, or vice versa. ☺

via N3QIE

Balloting in Absentia

The only contested position is for that of Director. If you wish to cast your votes for this position, please indicate your choices to the Judge-of-Elections (W3BBB) no later than the evening of December 7.

The candidates are (vote for two):

W3BBB, Jim Spencer
W3GQD, Bill Chedeville
W3RM, Dick Moll

JAMES MILLEN STATION SPECIAL EVENT

James Millen, W1HRX (now a silent key) probably contributed more than any other individual to the development and manufacture of short wave receivers during the 'thirties and 'forties. His HRO receiver and its derivatives were known throughout the world, and were distinguished during WW-II with selection by the U.S. Navy as their "standard" receivers on shore and shipboard. Products manufactured in later years by Millen's own company were renowned for excellence of design and unsurpassed quality.

Jim Millen's kilowatt AM transmitter, and his personal HRO, were acquired by the Antique Wireless Association, and have been fully restored by members of that group. They will be in operation with the call W2AN, December 4th and 11th, on 3867 kHz, from 2000 to 2300Z (that's 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. for English-speaking people). Although W2AN will transmit with AM only, they will solicit calls from both AM and SSB (A3E and J3E) modes. A commemorative QSL will be issued.

This event offers old-timers a unique opportunity to renew their acquaintance with vintage ham radio. New hams, weaned on Donald Duck SSB with 2.4 kHz audio bandwidth, will be able to hear high quality audio in the presence of a commanding carrier from a Real Transmitter! ☺

W3QZO

MINUTES

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Bob Wilcox, KE3CZ, Secretary



if anyone is interested in contributing to the club in this manner, please contact him. There is always a need for someone, even if only as a reliable fill in.

'BBB for the repeater, "it's working." Hey Jim, is this your standard answer, or is it just that you do not pay attention, and therefor must respond with something that will not reveal it.

AA3EP for Special Events: Charlie wanted to thank everyone for their efforts in the past year, and was looking forward to the same dedication from Phil-Monters next year.

WU3I and KB3IV were noticed in the front of the room talking in a whisper... must have been a meeting of the MIND.

The Tyrant thanked Charlie for all of his hard work.

Ed, acting as Tyrant and Nominating Committee Chairperson, announced the slate for elections:

PRESIDENT	WU3I
1ST VP	KE3CZ
2ND VP	N3FVI
SECRETARY	W3STW (whowillwritethehours)
TREASURER	N3KGG
DIRECTOR	W3BBB W3GQD W3RM

As you can see, there is not much of a contested election. This is *your* club folks. It will only be fun if YOU get involved. Hopes are that next year will bring a little better turnout for elections as the Little Guy had all he could do to fill the slate, and

Continued on page 8

MINUTES**NOVEMBER DIRECTORS' MEETING**

Bob Wilcox, KE3CZ, Secretary

8:15 p.m. and the Tyrant got this meeting off the ground. Attending were KB3IV, K3KUD, W3BBB, W3STW, WU3I, W3RM and KE3CZ. The meeting was held at the antenna farm of W3STW.

First on his list of things to do was to look at the '95 meeting schedule, which everyone did to his delight. It's easy to keep Tyrants happy.

The treasurer was absent... no report.

Special Events were all but done for the year... no report.

KB3IV reported that he, K3KUD and W3RM had reviewed the new Bylaws, and were satisfied to have them printed. WU3I made the motion, seconded by K3KUD, so it goes.

The Board thanks 'IV, 'KUD, 'RM and W3IIM for the work done to make this happen.

W3STW asked that the *Blurb* consider doing more snap shots of members and their shacks. He then volunteered to be the Club Photographer. (Some people learn to avoid these things, Al, not volunteer for them.)

K3KUD for the Audit Committee, reported that December 1st would be the meeting of his committee at 7:30 p.m. 'Hope Dave has his act together.

Ed again mentioned the great job done by WB3KOJ on the directory, as well as the *Blurb* folding. It's the dedication of people like Don that makes this club fun. 'Hope we get more of it from more people.

'BBB for the Emergency Committee: the only ones to report concerned a certain 92 Sable. No, Jim, there is no funding for that.

KB3IV for AA3BB, announced that there were two applicants to vote on. Maureen McCloskey-N3SQC and Mark Mihm-WB3EPD. Motion to accept was made by WU3I, seconded by W3STW, and there were no dissenting voices.

The Tyrant was asked to report on his unruly bunch, the Net Control Gang. Ed said that all was working out okay, but he could use some more assistance.

WU3I announced that the program for December would be Elections, and as that should not take that long, something else might be in the works.

It was noted that the repeater sometimes dropped out on VHF, if only momentarily. What?!? It's *NOT* working?

Special Events that are planned for next year for the club are: Field Day, Paddlerama and the Core States Bike Race. Of course AA3EP will have a dozen or so other things.

WU3I and W3STW for the VE Program: things are going well, and we are getting many new VEs on the team. Dusty, ND3Q, would like to thank all that have made this another successful year.

WU3I on W3TKQ: the Rupp wattmeter is still not back from the shop, and the Wyman fast scan receiver is on the fritz. The phone voice mail is now in operation. W3STW on 'TKQ: the Omni has been checked with the help of W3RM, and it was in fact a little off frequency. Al also mentioned that the dial was bent on it. Lastly he commented that someone erased the satellite tracking program, and the issue of doing

The Latest on The Navy Yard

Sam Kuncevich, N3QIE

The present number of employees stands at 4,255, and no further layoffs are expected before June-July of 1995. The carrier Kennedy remains well on schedule, on its completion of overhaul.

Several agencies in the yard have been rescheduled to remain until 1997, and possibly beyond.

The latest estimate shows that when

the yard "closes," about 1,200 will still be employed. The shops and functions still working are propeller shop, foundry, public works, police and fire department. The office of ships systems will function with about 400 employees. Also, remaining will be the "caretakers" of the reserve of mothball ships, the only fresh water ship storage basin in the US. ☺

**COMMENT ON THE PHIL-MONT BLURB,
ITS EDITOR, AND CARTOONS**

By free-lance cartoonist John Demchuck of Ansino, Arizona

A recent article in a influential magazine spoke harshly about reviewers not being critical enough toward publications. No more reviews using such words as exciting, fast-paced or must-reading. More bum reviews are cried aloud for.

It is with a word of distaste then, that we approach the Phil-Mont *Blurb*. The fact that this publication is exciting, fast-paced, must-reading, will not dissuade us from pointing out its inadequacies. And anybody can write a bum review about a bum publication. The reviewer who can knock a publication he likes, is a man who is carrying a banner for literary progress, and across some pretty thin ice at that.

In the first place this publication contains no maps. Although the editor, there being some difference of opinion as to whether the editors created the *Blurb* or the other way around, the *Blurb* mentions such places as the Repeater, The Institute, Mid-Month or the Makefield Farmer, the reader is given no hint as to the geographical relationships.

The lack of a detailed index is also disheartening. Without such assistance the reader (to say nothing of the reviewer) must go through the entire issue, no maps, no index, and no bibliography. The text of some of the articles seems to be corrupt, and unless we had access to the original manuscript, how can we be sure of what is correct?

At some issues, the author (or editor) would have us believe he has friends located in a well known southern resort. So does another well to do electronic wizard claim friends there. Where did he (editor) obtain this information?

A good way to judge publications is to ask oneself, has the editor accomplished what he has set out to do? Well, what has the editor set out to do? This reviewer gets the impression that he hasn't the slightest idea. Is it to have fun or make money? Well, that's between the editor and the internal revenue service, and the gang at his local bar and grill.

One feels the *Blurb* cartoonist does not

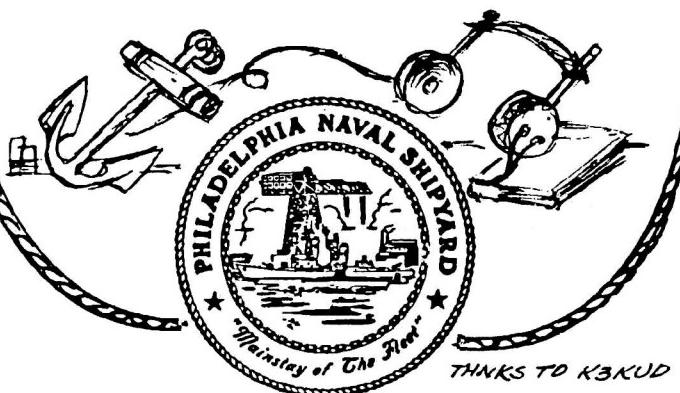
PHIL-MONT WAS A PART
OF THE SHIPYARD



AL BUBECK	K3GNM
CHEP KLABE	WA2YDS
SAM KUNCEVICH	N3QIE
CHARLIE STOUTH	W3ZPP
NED SCHLICHTING	N2EMN
WAYNE ZIEGLER	WB2SZF

SILENT KEYS

DAVE ANDERSON	WA2RDC
BILL BUBECK	W3YHV
BOB DIEDENDERFER	K3DJE
BRAD MARTIN	W3QV-CAPTAIN USN
LOU RULLI	WB2WOM



115TH MONTHLY VE SESSION STATISTICS
NOVEMBER

17 candidates took 38 elements
8 new amateurs plus 6 upgrades

VE team members:
Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q, Chairman
Steve Hoch, WU3I; Wally Newell, K3JJO; Tom Scott, KA4LIF; Al Tribble, W3STW;
Joel Kleinguenther, KA3SWU; Larry Clifford, W3UY; Joe Pearlstein, NU3Y

AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS HELD ON THE FIRST
NON-HOLIDAY THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Registration begins at 6:00 PM

Doors close at 6:30 PM sharp

**THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE
SCIENCE MUSEUM**

For Information Call ND3Q at
(215) 482-0386 or 879-0505
Accessible by the handicapped.



things like this must be addressed. The 440 rig in the #1 panel is working well. Final note was that N3PDO was doing a great job at 'TKQ, and is one of the young members who could make a impact on the Club.

The jackets we often talk about, are in the works. With no other Old Business, and no New Business, W3STW made the motion to adjourn at 10:02 PM, seconded by W3RM. We wuz outta there. ☺



NEWSLETTERS EXCHANGED

Anne Arundel Radio Club (Maryland)
Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society (BRATS)
Chaverim of Delaware Valley
Cherryville Repeater Association (NJ)
Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club (DLARC)
Delmont Radio Club
Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club (Florida)
Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club (MARC)
Penn Wireless Association
R F Hill Amateur Radio Club
Reading Radio Club
Sanibel Amateur Radio Emergency Unit (Florida)
Sussex Amateur Radio Ass'n (SARA) (Delaware)
The 96 Over The Hill Gang (New Castle, Delaware)
Tompkins County Amateur Radio Club (New York)
Warminster Amateur Radio Club
Worldradio Magazine

Exchanges with additional parties are welcomed.

Continued from page 5

didn't even pull that off until just before announcing the candidates.

We then enjoyed watching the oldie, but goodie, *Every Single Minute*.

50-50 was sold by the lovely Anna Popovic, winning ticket pulled by Jimmy Roreck, and won by Bill-W3GQD.

Ed reported that N3IEI did a fabulous job with the 9A station, which placed 4th, that was manned by Phil-Monters during Field Day.

WU3I announced that the phone service at the Institute had been changed, and now allows for more current information to the callers. Also noted was that the 'slow scan' was working well.

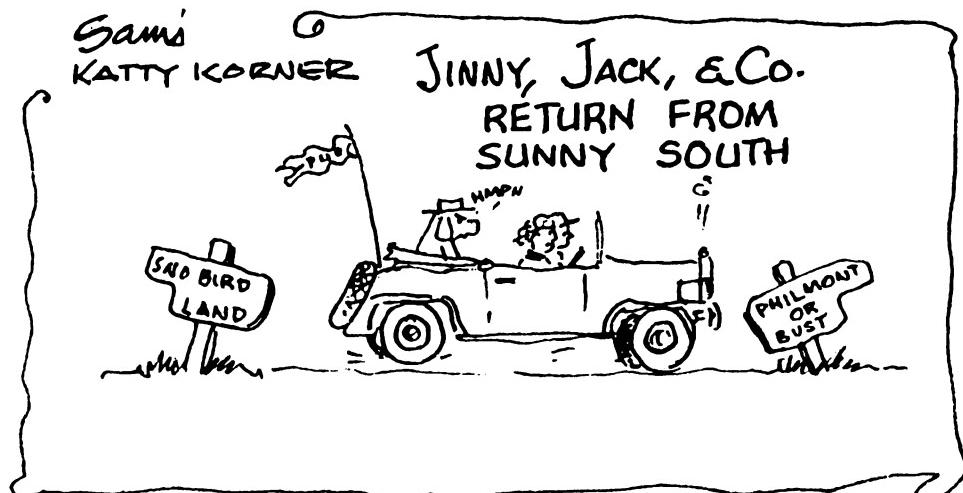
WA3NSP, Bill Mannino, gave an update of the Official Observer Program, and announced that the Regional Monitoring Station System was being phased out.

N3OWM for Welcoming: There were

41 members and 14 guests. The guest list included Maureen McCloskey-N3SQC, Lawrence Weinstein-N3STR, Stan Weinstein-N3TMC, Mike O'Leary, Jack Madara-KA3PLR, Charlye Johnson-WN3PDB, Mim Roeshman (XYL of W3LKI), Kevin Lee, Jamie Ersback-N3QLR, Anna Popovic, Jimmy Rorick, Jessica Rorick, Gus Bendler-N2TXW, and Dave Curz. Thanks to all for attending.

WU3I made a special presentation to Rollie-W3PWG who was given the old license from W3TKQ, as he passed the torch to the new trustee of the station, WU3I. We all listened to a recording from one of Rollie's long time contacts, and a video was made of the event. Thanks Rollie... and never fear folks, Rollie is still going to be at 'TKQ doing his thing like always.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m. ☺



Your next shot should still include the entire family, but everyone is much closer to you compared to the first, establishing shot. Roll tape! Get the confusion and excitement. Hold the shot *steady*. You'll see a lot more when you play back the tape if the shots are held long and steady. Try not to use the zoom at all, you don't need it. Pans (left to right moves) are *the worst*. With a steady shot, you're recording everything. The viewer will be able to absorb the scene when the tape is reviewed. Let the audience use their eyes to move around your scene. Get *closer* still! Make an effort to shoot each family member as an individual. You want to be virtually right on top of them, filling the frame, top to bottom, with a face and a present. If the lens is all the way wide, your shots will be extremely steady.

Remember, wide shots are steady, zoomed-in shots will be all over the place. Move-in to the action, get close, shoot wide. You get the same shot without the bounce. Hold, shoot, w a i t, pause. Keeping with the same subject, change your shot to just the excitement in their eyes, just a face shot now. Hold, shoot, w a i t, pause. Let's see what they're opening—get a nice shot of the present with little hands tearing at the wrapping. Hold, shoot, w a i t, pause. Repeat this with the rest of the family.

OK, I know you're busting to use that zoom. After you get the *steady* shots, move back across the room. It's time to 'establish' again. Perhaps a nice shot of the tree, with the family underneath. Get closer to the tree... focus, then pull wide. With the tree filling the frame, slowly pan and tilt down to the mess all over the living room floor. Stop the move—hold the shot—now pause. Vary your shooting now, back to faces and presents. This time, include two

or three people in the shot, but follow the same rules! Get close, focus, wide shot, fill the frame. If you must, while shooting, count softly to yourself. Hold those shots for at least 10 to 15 seconds.

These rules hold true for family dinners, too. Wide shots, perhaps from both sides of the table to get everyone. Don't pan or zoom, hold those shots steady! Move yourself closer to the action. Focus on the people farthest away from you, but that are still in the shot. Widen out, now record. Continue your sequencing with tight shots of individuals or smaller, two to three person groups. Wide, medium, tight... this will give you great subject matter; hold, shoot, w a i t, then pause, will make sure the subjects are recorded in the best fashion.

Happy Holidays to all! ☺

Editor's note: Chris is a professional cameraman at KYW-TV3.

Budget Committee Meeting Scheduled For December 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Chairman: K3KUD

Members: W3BBB, W3IIM, W3IIN, KB3IV, K3KUD, N3KGG.

Video Tips

for more memorable holiday images.

Chris Brady, N3IEI

With the holidays fast approaching, it's time to dust off the video camera. Get it ready to record family activities throughout this festive season.

No matter what video format camera you use, VHS, 8mm, Hi-8, or one of the other compact VHS formats, you can record some pretty priceless images by following some basic rules which are guaranteed to make your shooting more professional and pleasing to watch.

After digging through the closet to find your gear, let's start with the batteries. Not unlike amateur HT batteries, your camcorder will suffer the same woes from underutilized cells. Check the ni-cad batteries closely for their ability to deliver a full charge. Charge, then discharge the batteries using the camera to shoot a practice tape or two. This will give you a feel for their ability to perform while the presents are being opened, or at that family dinner with Aunt Mary. Use the battery indicator in the camera to determine when a pack is discharged. When the warning light blinks, STOP! You don't want to completely discharge the pack for fear of reversing polarity of one of the cells. If the life of the pack is far below its rating, for example: you get 20 minutes of running time from a "60 minute" battery, replace it!

I would recommend using only higher-grade, name-brand tape in your machines. Avoid generic or store-brand cassettes, because there is really no guarantee of quality. Exceptionally long tapes are no good

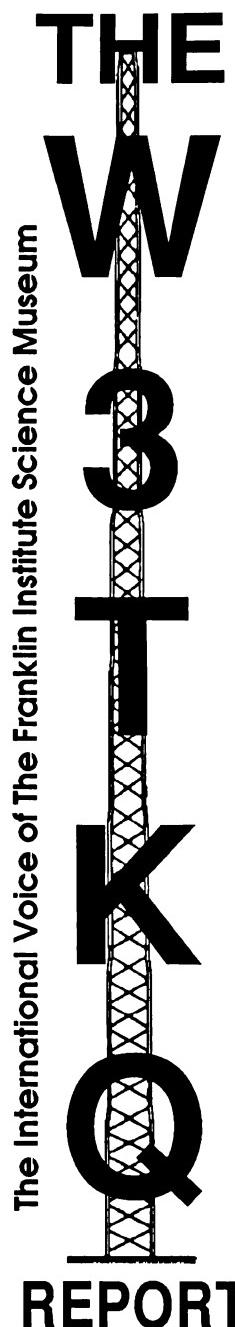
either; they use a thinner tape stock to wind those extra minutes on the spool. This will create problems in the long run, like head clogs and dropout.

Let's get shooting!

It's Christmas morning. "Santa" (that's you) sneaks downstairs to get the camera ready. You have good batteries and new tape. Now what do you do? Well, the number-one sin of a camcorder cameraman is the seasick swish. We see it every day here at work, when home video comes in from some spot news event. Ordinarily when you look at something, you don't move your head back and forth, you pick a spot of interest... and you look! Then, when that bores you, you pick another... and look! Shooting great tape is no different, we call it *sequencing*.

The first shot on your tape should be a real nice wide shot, from across the room. Hold it steady! If you have a tripod, use it. Be on the opposite side of the room from the action, in this case, the kids coming down the stairs with mom. Be as wide as possible, let them walk into the shot, and perhaps out of it as well. Don't be a homing pigeon, *hold that shot*. Resist any urge to follow them with the lens. After they get into the room and out of the shot, pause. Make sure your bathrobe knot is tied tightly, because it's time to work.

With room lights up full, move to the action (with the camera still paused). Get closer to the kids and mom, zoom in and focus on the farthest person, pull wide.



The last month has brought some changes. The Wyman fast scan TV unit is having receive problems; N3FVI has it to repair, and it will be back as soon as possible. The Rupp power meter is still out, which means the TL-922 is disabled. The TEN-TEC tuner is repaired and in line. Please check the SWR periodically on 20M; the tuner needs to be used on the 'slow scan' frequencies. As soon as can be arranged the midland 2M rig will be moved to the console with the KAM and the TS-450. There will be a Kenwood 2570, 70 watt rig installed with the ATV for simplex operations on ATV.

As you are aware, the change of trustee was applied for to the FCC. The new license was received and presented at the November General Meeting. W3TKQ now has Extra privileges when the operator is an Extra Class. There is no need to sign the operator's call with the station call.

As always, remember that W3TKQ is your station. Stop down and visit. If you find yourself with an afternoon free, come down and volunteer with the OP on duty that day, they'll appreciate the company.

—Steve Hoch, WU3I

1994

DECEMBER

1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Unless we change our course, we will end up where we are headed.		1 LICENSE EXAMS at The Franklin Institute Registration begins at 6:00 Doors close at 6:30 p.m. <i>sharp!</i>	2 ●	3
4 2M NCS W3STW 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS W3PWG <i>Millen Special Event</i>	5	6 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM N3ALW	7 GENERAL MEETING at The Franklin Institute Refreshments at 7:00 p.m. Meeting starts after 7:30 <i>Pearl Harbor 1941</i>	8	9	10
11 2M NCS KB3IV 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS AA3CH <i>Millen Special Event</i>	12	13 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM N3FVI <i>Geminid Meteor Shower</i>	14 DIRECTORS' MEETING at N3FVI's	15 <i>Bill of Rights 1791</i>	16	17 <i>Wright Brothers Flight 1903</i>
18 ● 2M NCS N3FTY 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS NEEDED	19	20 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM K3JJO	21 <i>Winter Solstice</i>	22	23	24
25 2M NCS W3GQD 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS KB3IV <i>Christmas Day</i>	26	27 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3RM <i>Jim Spencer 1923 Howdy Doody 1947</i>	28  <i>OPERATORS' NET at 8 PM</i>	29	30	31  <i>Straight Key Night</i>